Listing of the claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): [c1] In a wireless communications system providing for communication over two or more channels utilizing a communications architecture that calls for hopping from channel to channel during data transmission, a method for mitigating the effects of interference, the method comprising:

scanning the channels for interference and identifying channels experiencing interference;

transmitting only null packets when hopping to a channel identified as experiencing interference; and

transmitting normal data when hopping to a channel not identified as experiencing interference.

Claim 2 (currently amended): [c2] The method of claim 1 wherein the scanning step is performed upon the commencement of data transmission.

Claim 3 (currently amended): [c3] The method of claim 1 wherein the scanning step is performed upon each passage of a first time period.

Claim 4 (currently amended): ~~[c4]~~ The method of claim 2 wherein the scanning step is repeated periodically during data transmission.

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~[c5]~~ The method of claim 1 wherein the scanning step is performed when a data throughput rate falls below a predefined value.

Claim 6 (currently amended): ~~[c6]~~ The method of claim 1 wherein the scanning step is performed when requested by a user.

Claim 7 (currently amended): ~~[c7]~~ The method of claim 2 wherein the scanning step is repeated whenever:

    a) a second time period has passed;

    b) a data throughput rate falls below a predefined value; or

    c) requested by a user.

Claim 8 (currently amended): ~~[c8]~~ The method of claim 1 wherein the communication architecture is the standard known as Bluetooth.

Claim 9 (currently amended): ~~[c9]~~ The method of claim 1 wherein the communication architecture is the standard known as IEEE 802.15.1.

Claim 10 (currently amended): ~~[c10]~~ The method of claim 7 wherein the communication architecture is the standard known as Bluetooth.

Claim 11 (currently amended): [c11] The method of claim 7 wherein the communication architecture is the standard known as IEEE 802.15.1.

Claim 12 (currently amended): [c12] In a wireless communications system providing for communication in the ISM communications frequency band by a communications device operating according to the Bluetooth standard, a method for mitigating the effects of interference, the method comprising:

upon power up of the device, scanning the available channels for interference and identifying channels experiencing interference;

transmitting only null packets when hopping to a channel identified as experiencing interference; and

transmitting normal data when hopping to a channel not identified as experiencing interference.

Claim 13 (currently amended): [c13] The method of claim 12 wherein the scanning step is repeated periodically during data transmission.

Claim 14 (currently amended): [c14] The method of claim 12 wherein the scanning step is performed when a data throughput rate falls below a predefined value.

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Claim 15 (currently amended): [c15] The method of claim 12 wherein the scanning step is performed when requested by a user.

Claim 16 (currently amended): [c16] The method of claim 12 wherein the scanning step is repeated whenever:

    a) a third time period has passed;

    b) a data throughput rate falls below a predefined value; or

    c) requested by a user.

Claim 17 (currently amended): [c17] In a wireless communication system providing for communication in the ISM communications frequency band by a communications device operating according to the IEEE 802.15.1 standard, a method for mitigating the effects of interference, the method comprising:

upon power up of the device, scanning the available channels for interference and identifying channels experiencing interference;

transmitting only null packets when hopping to a channel identified as experiencing interference; and

transmitting normal data when hopping to a channel not identified as experiencing interference.

Claim 18 (currently amended): [c18] The method of claim 17 wherein the scanning step is performed when a data throughput rate falls below a predefined value.

Claim 19 (currently amended): [c19] The method of claim 17 wherein the scanning step is performed when requested by a user.

Claim 20 (currently amended): [c20] The method of claim 17 wherein the scanning step is repeated whenever:

   a) a fourth time period has passed;

   b) a data throughput rate falls below a predefined value; or

   c) requested by a user.